

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NOUAKC 00654 301213Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ARA-06 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /082 W
-----310411Z 050514 /73

R 301144/2 MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7197
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 0654

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UR, XA, MR
SUBJ: GIRM REACTION TO PODGORNYY SAFARI

REF: (A) 76 NOUAKCHOTT 295 (NOTAL), (B) NOUAKCHOTT 603 (NOTAL)

1. MAURITANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER OULD MOUKNASS COMMENTED WITH SOME HEAT MARCH 23 DURING DISCUSSION OF ZAIRE INVASION (REF B) THAT PODGORNYY AFRICAN SAFARI COMING ON HEELS OF CASTRO'S EAST AFRICAN BALLADE WAS SOVIET "PROVOCATION". IF TWIN TRIPS WERE NOT CONCEIVED AS INTERNATIONAL ONE-TWO PUNCH, AND WERE IN FACT COINCIDENTAL, SOVIETS SHOULD THEN HAVE HAD, IN MOUKNASS' VIEW SENSITIVITY AND DIPLOMATIC FINESSE TO POSTPONE PODGORNYY TRIP UNTIL IMPACT OF CASTRO JAUNT HAD WORN OFF.

2. "L'EXPRESS" COVER STORY--AFRIQUE: LES AMBITIONS RUSSES (NUMBER 1341, MARCH 21-27 NOW ON SALE IN NOUAKCHOTT) DECLARES CASTRO AND PODGORNYY AFRICAN TRIPS HAVE SINGLE OBJECTIVE: ATTACKING IMPERIALISM AND NEOCOLONIALISM WHEREVER FOUND, AND ASSERTS "ITINERARIES WERE CAREFULLY WORKED OUT, TASKS WERE
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CAREFULLY DIVIDED). COVER STORY CHARACTERIZES COMBINED ACTION AS "DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE WITHOUT PRECEDENT".

3. MUNNASS CONCEIVABLY COULD HAVE SEEN ADVANCE COPY OF L'EXPRESS PRIOR TO OUR CONVERSATION AND COVER STORY MAY HAVE PROMPTED HIS COMMENT. IT IS MORE PROBABLE THAT

L'EXPRESS ISSUE ARRIVED LATER, AND THAT COVER STORY WILL
NOW REINFORCE CONCLUSION FO FOREIGN MINISTER HAD EARLIER
REACHED INDEPENDENTLY.HANDYSIDE

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: NOUAKCHOTT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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TAGS: PFOR, CU, MR, UR, XA, (HAMDI OULD MOUKNASS)
To: STATE INFO ALGIERS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
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